

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

**APPARATUS AND METHOD OF SPLITTING A DATA STREAM OVER
MULTIPLE TRANSPORT CONTROL PROTOCOL/INTERNET PROTOCOL
(TCP/IP) CONNECTIONS**

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A method, system and apparatus for improving data transfer rate over a network are provided. When a piece of data is to be transmitted to a target system, it is divided into a number of packets and a determination is made as to whether the number of packets exceeds a threshold number. If so, the packets are transferred in parallel over a plurality of network connections. The ideal network connections are TCP/IP connections. Thus, each packet has an IP header, which contains an IP identification field. An indicium is placed into the IP identification field for proper reconstruction of the data by the target system.

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